

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00
OMB-01 /112 W
-----096410 271152Z /43

R 241949Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1084
USDOC WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 4712

USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, AR
SUBJECT: GOA IMPORT PROGRAM FOR SECOND HALF 1977

REFERENCE: A) 76 BA-7634; B) 76 BA-3700.

1. ON JUNE 4, 1977, THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY ISSUED
RESOLUTION 485/77 SETTING FORTH RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL
IMPORT PROGRAMS FOR SECOND HALF 1977.

2. THE ONLY SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES INTRODUCED BY NEW
RULES ARE AS FOLLOWS: 1) THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN"
INFORMATION REQUIREMENT OF PREVIOUS DECLARATIONS IS
ELIMINATED IN FAVOR OF A SIMPLE "COUNTRY OF
EMBARKATION" DELCARATION ITEM THEREBY REMOVING ONE
SOURCE OF UNDERTAINTY FOR IMPORTERS IN CLEARING
LANDED GOODS; 2) IMPORTERS ARE NO LONGER OBLIGED TO
DECLARE THE TYPE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO BE USED AS
PAYMENT; THE DOLLAR FOB AMOUNT DECLARED IS USED
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ONLY FOR STATISTICAL AND CONTROL PURPOSES; 3) SWORN
DELCARATIONS FOR SECOND HALF IMPORT PROGRAMME CAN BE
USED TO SUPPRORT SHIPMENTS MADE DURING THE FIRST
HALF 1977, BUT NOT COVERED BY CERTIFICATES ISSUED
UNDER FIRST SEMESTER REGIME.

3. ALTHOUGH NEW RULES CONTINUE POLICY OF GRADUAL

LIBERALIZATION OF FOREIGN TRADE, IMPORTER OF RAW AND SEMI-PROCESSED MATERIALS, AND FINISHED GOODS (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CAPITAL GOODS) MUST STILL SUBMIT A "SWORN DECLARATION OF NEED TO IMPORT" FOR EACH PRODUCT ITEM TO BE IMPORTED BY COUNTRY SPECIFYING THE INDIVIDUAL BTN NO., SO AS TO OBTAIN IMPORT "CERTIFICATES" ENABLING BANKS AND CUSTOMS TO HANDLE IMPORT OPERATIONS. AS BEFORE, BANKS AND CUTOMS ARE AUTHORIZED TO ALLOW ON SHIPMENTS A TEN PERCENT VARIATION OVER AMOUNT APPEARING ON CORRESPONDING "SWORN DECLARATION" (SEE PARA 4 OF REFTEL A). OTHER PROVISIONS OF PREVIOUS REGIME (RESOLUTION 794/76) DESCRIBED IN PARA 1, 2, 3, AND 4 OF REFTEL (A) CONTINUE TO APPLY. "SWORN DECLARATIONS" FOR SHIPMENTS TO BE EFFECTED DURING SECOND HALF ARE TO BE SUBMITTED FROM JUNE 6 TO NOVEMBER 23, 1977 FOR SHIPMENTS THROUGH DEC 31, 1977.

4. COMMENT: IN PRACTICE, AT PRESENT ALL SWORN DECLARATIONS ARE BEING APPROVED AUTOMATICALLY. IN VIEW OF ARGENTINA'S RECORD FOREIGN RESERVES, THERE WAS SPECULATION THAT THIS FORM OF LICENSING WOULD BE ABOLISHED ALTOGETHER. THEIR RETENTION IS READ BY SOME AS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE TO MAINTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY INTACT TO DEAL WITH POTENTIAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE CRISES. AN EQUALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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LIKELY EXPLANATION IS THAT THE GOA WISHES TO CONTINUE TO COLLECT STATISTICAL DATA ON THE INTENTIONS OF IMPORTERS, TO BE USED AS A LEADING INDICATOR TO PROJECT IMPORTS. (THE SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN TRADE REQUIRES IMPORTERS TO SUBMIT DECLARATIONS ONLY IF THEY ARE POSITIVE THAT THEY WILL IMPORT THE MERCHANDISE SO DECLARED. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT DURING THE FIRST HALF, IMPORTERS OVERSTATED INTENTIONS IN ORDER TO EXAGGERATE THEIR PRIOR IMPORT HISTORIES, WHICH, IN PREVIOUS REGIMES, DURING ARGENTINA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE CRISES, HAD BEEN USED TO ALLOCATE IMPORT CERTIFICATES. THIS PRACTICE RESULTED IN THE COLLECTION OF DATA WHICH OVERESTIMATED ARGENTINE IMPORTS DURING THE FIRST HALF BY A FACTOR OF THREE. SINCE NEW RULES DO NOT REQUIRE A PUCHASE ORDER TO BE ATTACHED TO THE DECLARATIONS A THIRD RATIONALE FOR RETAINING THE "SWORN DECLARATION" CERTIFICATES HAS BEEN GIVEN PUBLICLY BY TRADE OFFICIALS: IT IS THEIR DESIRE TO RETAIN THE SYSTEM OF LICENSING BECAUSE OF THE LEVERAGE IT GIVES THEM IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER

COUNTRIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, EXPORTS, POLICIES, FOREIGN TRADE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770228-0974
Format: TEL
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaarkp.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: aa644977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2039378
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOA IMPORT PROGRAM FOR SECOND HALF 1977
TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, AR
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/aa644977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009